

**Amendments to the Drawings:**

The attached replacement drawing sheet makes changes to Fig. 5 and replaces the original sheet with Figs. 4 and 5.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-6 and 8-11 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 4, 8, and 9 are amended, claim 7 is canceled, and new claims 10-11 are added. No new matter is added. Reconsideration in view of the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

The courtesies extended to Applicant's representative by Examiners Thomas and Kopec at the personal interview held on March 14 are greatly appreciated. The reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action are incorporated in the remarks below and constitute the record of the interview.

Applicant gratefully acknowledges that the Office Action indicates that claims 8-9 contain allowable subject matter.

By this Amendment, the specification is amended to correct minor informalities, and Figure 5 is amended to indicate a GND pattern (item 505). Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the objections.

Furthermore, by this Amendment, allowable dependent claims 8-9 are amended into independent form including all of the limitations of independent claim 7 from which they depend, and new independent claims 10-11 are written to include a limitation of allowable claims 8-9.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-6 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Yamazaki (U.S. Patent No. 4,696,764); and rejects claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamazaki. The §103(a) rejection as it pertains to canceled claim 7 is now moot. However, Applicant respectfully traverses the §102(b) rejection of claims 1-6.

Specifically, Applicant asserts that Yamazaki does not disclose a conductive composition, which is used for a conductor of a multilayer electronic component, having at least a metal particle and a metal oxide particle, wherein said metal oxide particle has an

average particle size of 5 to 60 nm and a melting point of 1500°C or higher, and wherein a content of the metal oxide particle is 0.1 to 10.0 wt% based on the amount of the metal particle, as recited in independent claims 1 and 4.

In contrast to the claimed invention, Yamazaki discloses an electrically conductive adhesive composition, which provides electric conductivity between facing electrodes but maintains electric insulation in the lateral direction across the facing direction.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully asserts that Yamazaki does not disclose a conductive composition, which is used for a conductor of a multilayer electronic component, as recited in independent claims 1 and 4.

In accordance with the above remarks, Applicants submit that independent claims 1, 4, and 8-11 define patentable subject matter. Claims 2-3 and 5-6 depend from claims 1 and 4 respectively, and therefore, also define patentable subject matter. Thus, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the §102(b) and §103(a) rejections.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-6 and 8-11 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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JAO:BAZ/hs

Attachment:  
Replacement Sheet (Figs. 4 and 5)

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